

CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A toothbrush comprising a head portion with a brush portion located on a surface thereof, a toothbrush body, and a shaft that connects the head portion and the toothbrush body,

the toothbrush body being provided with light emitting means to irradiate light toward the head portion, the shaft being structured to permit the light to transmit or pass therethrough, at least a surface of the head portion including an elastic portion located thereon, and a tip end of the head portion not including the elastic portion located thereon and thereby provided with a tip-end light transmitting portion that is configured to transmit light received from the light emitting means outside of the head portion to illuminate an interior of an oral cavity.

2. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein the surface of the head portion on which the brush portion is provided does not include the elastic portion and is thereby formed with a brush-portion light transmitting portion, and at least a part of a surface opposed to the surface of the head portion on which the brush portion is provided does not include the elastic portion and is thereby provided with a back-surface light transmitting portion.

3. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the head portion includes sides that have outer peripheries, and the elastic portion is formed on at least a part of the outer peripheries of the sides of the head portion and in a substantially central region of the opposed surface except on the back-surface light transmitting portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein the back-surface light transmitting portion is formed to have a cross section thereof curved from an outer periphery of a back surface of the head portion to a part of the outer peripheries of the sides, and surfaces of the elastic portion project from surfaces of respective light transmitting portions.

5. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

6. (Previously Presented) A toothbrush comprising a head portion with a brush portion, a toothbrush body, and a shaft that connects the head portion and the toothbrush body, the toothbrush body being provided with a light emitting device configured to irradiate light toward the head portion, the shaft being structured to permit the light to transmit or pass therethrough, at least a surface of the head portion including an elastic portion, and the elastic body being formed from a transparent material.

7. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the shaft elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

8. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

9. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 4, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

10. (Currently Amended) A toothbrush comprising a head portion with a brush portion located on a surface thereof, a toothbrush body, and a shaft that connects the head portion and the toothbrush body,

the toothbrush body being provided with a light emitting device that is configured to irradiate light toward the head portion, the shaft being structured to permit the light to transmit or pass therethrough,

at least a surface of the head portion including an elastic portion located thereon, and

a portion of the head portion not including the elastic portion located thereon and thereby provided with a head portion light transmitting portion that is configured to transmit light received from the light emitting device outside of the head portion to illuminate an interior of an oral cavity.

11. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 10, wherein the surface of the head portion on which the brush portion is provided does not include the elastic portion and is thereby formed with a brush-portion light transmitting portion, and at least a part of a surface opposed to the surface of the head portion on which the brush portion is provided does not include the elastic portion and is thereby provided with a back-surface light transmitting portion.

12. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 11, wherein the head portion includes sides that have outer peripheries, and the elastic portion is formed on at least a part of the outer peripheries of the sides of the head portion and in a substantially central region of the opposed surface except on the back-surface light transmitting portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 12, wherein the back-surface light transmitting portion is formed to have a cross section thereof curved from an outer periphery of a back surface of the head portion to a part of the outer peripheries of the sides, and surfaces of the elastic portion project from surfaces of respective light transmitting portions.

14. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 10, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

15. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 11, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the shaft elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

16. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 12, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

17. (Previously Presented) The toothbrush according to claim 13, wherein the elastic portion includes a shaft elastic body on the shaft in the vicinity of the head portion, and a surface of the shaft does not include the elastic body and is thereby provided with a shaft light transmitting portion.

18. (New) The toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting means irradiates light along a light emitting axis, and the brush portion is spaced from the light emitting axis.

19. (New) The toothbrush according to claim 10, wherein the light emitting device irradiates light along a light emitting axis, and the brush portion is spaced from the light emitting axis.